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SUBJECT Plans for Construction of New Railroad Lines in
Berlin Area

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-a. Seddin-Potsdam

Plans for a new loop line between these two points are now being drawn up. The new line will enable rail traffic to pass between Potsdam and the Southern Freight Ring without entering the Western Sectors of Berlin.

b. Pankow-Schoenausen

Work was started at the end of May on a new electrified line which will enable rail traffic to pass between these two points without stopping at intermediate stations in the Western Sectors of Berlin. The work is scheduled for completion by the end of September 1952.

c. Bernau-Berlin Freight Ring.

A new line is to be constructed between Bernau and the Berlin Freight Ring with the object of avoiding Gesundbrunnen station. The planned completion date is 30 September 1952.

d. Karow-Schildow-Birkenwerder

A new double-track line between these points is to be built and put into operation before the end of August 1952. This will provide an alternative route to the line running from Gesundbrunnen via Hermsdorf to the French Sector of Berlin.

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e. Velten-Hohen-Neuendorf

Construction of a new line between these points is to begin early in July. It is designed to replace the existing Gesundbrunnen-Tegel line.

f. Nauen-Wustermark-Satzkow-Wildpark

The possibility of constructing a new line between these points to replace the existing Nauen-Rathenow-Potsdam line was under discussion during May but has not yet been finally approved.

g. Northern Freight Ring-Karow-Birkenwerder

Construction of a new double-track line of a total length of 15.2 kilometers is already authorized. At the branch line between Karow and Brandenburg, the new line will pass beneath the existing line which will have to be raised by 2.5 meters. Between Schildow and Muehlenbeck it will pass over the Berlin-Basdorf line, continuing via Bergfelde to Birkenwerder. The line will then pass over State Highways 143 and 109 and under the Schildow and Muehlenbeck and Schildow to Birkenwerder roads. The completed plans are to be submitted to Erwin Kramer, Director General, Railroads, by 10 June 1952.

h. Blankenburg-Karow-Schildow-Birkenwerder

Near the curved sector between Blankenburg and Karow a new extension is to be constructed which will pass over the Eberswalde north station sector and continue in the direction of Schildow and Birkenwerder. The Freight Ring will join the north station and Lowenberg line at Birkenwerder. The line will be double track and of a total length of 17 kilometers. The new line is designed to replace the existing sector of the Outer Freight Ring between Karow and Muehlenbeck-Basdorf-Sachsenhausen which was built in 1950. The latter will be dismantled to provide materials for the new line. Plans for the new line are now being drawn up in the Planning Office of the Railroad Directorate, Berlin.

2. New Construction Department

A new central construction department to be known as R.B. -Bau-Union¹ with responsibility for all major rail construction in East Germany is to be set up shortly. All equipment, formerly in use by individual VEB's working on railway construction, is to be taken over by the new department. The department will have branch offices in Berlin, Cottbus, Waren, and Schwerin.

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Comment: Probably Reichsbahn Bau-Union.

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